subject of discussion at various fora. The Conference of Labour Ministers held in 1985 recommended that wherever there is a wide disparity in wages in particular scheduled employments covering two or more States, efforts should be made by all concerned to reduce disparity. The 28th Indian Labour Conference (1985) discussed the need for national minimum wage. It decided that till such time as this becomes feasible it would be desirable to have regional minimum wages in regard to which the Central Government may lay down the guidelines.

The guidelines have been formulated in this regard and circulated to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Central Government has also advised the State Governments not to fix minimum wage in any scheduled employment at less than Rs. 15.00 per day.

Regarding intra-State disparity, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 empowers an appropriate Government to fix different rates of minimum wages for different scheduled employments and also for different localities in the same State.

Closures and Lock-out Cases in the Newspapers Industry

$1724. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of closures and lockout cases in the newspaper industry in the country during the last two years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): According to the Labour Bureau, lockouts in three establishments and closure of two establishments were declared in the newspaper industry during 1989 and 1990.

Status of Ghronda Neemka, Delhi

1725. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pandav Nagar Colony near the factory of Mother Dairy in Patpar Ganj in the Shahdara Zone, Delhi-92 is located in the rural areas of Ghronda Neemka since declared as urban covering the old abadi as well as the entire revenue estate of the Ghronda Neemka village;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as per revenue records 'Ghronda Neemka' does not exist near the factory of Mother Dairy in Patparganj, Shahdara Zone Delhi—92 and it is only Ghronda Neemka where Pandav Nagar Colony is situated; and

(c) if so, what is the factual position in his regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Deputy Commissioner Delhi, has informed that the Pandav Nagar Colony is situated in the land of Village Ghronda Neemka Banger near the Mother Dairy factory. The Mother Dairy factory is situated on the land of Village Mandwali Fazalpur.

Pisciculture in Himachal Pradesh

1726. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that areas of Kinnaur, Lahaul and Spiti in Himachal Pradesh are suitable for the development of pisciculture;

(b) if so, whether any scheme for the development of pisciculture has been drawn in these areas; and if so, the deails thereof; and

(c) the quantum of Central aid proposed to be given in this regard to Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Some areas of Kinnaur, Lahaul and Spiti in Himachal Pradesh are suitable for development of pisciculture.

(b) and (c) The schemes taken up for development of pisciculture are management and development of sport fisheries

$Previously Unstared Questions No. 720, Transferred from 25-7-91.